

experts in the technological field. I am incredibly impressed with their ability to create and put a new idea into action in only a 24-hour period. You are truly some of the best and brightest.

Technology touches our lives now more than ever before. Students encounter social media constantly outside the classroom so why not incorporate media into the classroom to further engage and prepare students for a technology-driven world? These five Plano students embody the future of innovation. I commend them for putting their creative minds to work for the betterment of their peers and the perpetual success of our community.

Once again, congratulations, students, on your outstanding accomplishment. I am proud to see such innovative thinking and active problem-solving from the youth in our great state of Texas. You all have very bright futures ahead of you. God Bless you.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TENTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRAQ WAR

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tenth anniversary since the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom and to remember the men and women of our armed services who have defended the United States in the war on terror.

Starting on March 20, 2003, and for nearly nine years thereafter, members of our Armed Forces fought to protect both their loved ones back home and Iraqi citizens from the many threats that lingered in the region. It was a long and difficult journey for us as a nation but none more so than the journey traveled and sacrifices made by our service men and women and their families. The United States lost 4,475 members of our armed services by the time we left Iraq in December 2011, and an additional 32,220 were wounded. I know that I speak for many when I say that these men and women, who gave so much for their country, are true American heroes whose names will be forever honored.

Our involvement in Iraq may be officially over, but we still face many threats as a nation, and there is much work ahead of us in the war on terror. We still have many members of our Armed Forces who continue this fight, both at home and abroad. On this important anniversary in the war on terror, I ask that

we take a moment to honor and recognize the many troops we have lost, the sacrifices made by those who stayed at home, and the men and women of our Armed Forces who remain on the front lines in the name of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the tenth anniversary of the war in Iraq. I thank my colleagues for joining me in honoring of the service men and women who have defended the United States.

CONGRATULATING THE GARDEN
THEATRE ON THEIR FIVE YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Garden Theatre of Winter Garden, Florida, on the celebration of their five year anniversary. The Garden Theatre works to provide cultural performing arts such as concerts, movies and live plays to the City of Winter Garden and the Central Florida region.

The Garden Theatre was originally constructed in 1935 in Mediterranean Revival style as a single-screen cinema where the community gathered to watch the most current newsreels and films. Through the years the theatre underwent various renovations until 1963, when it closed. In February 2008, because of the tireless effort put forth by the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation, the restored Garden Theatre reopened to the public.

While proudly representing historic downtown Winter Garden, the Garden Theatre affords economic development to the Central Florida region by presenting four to seven events each week and annually hosting over 200 events. A study from the Arts and Economic Prosperity Report estimated an annual economic impact from the theatre's operations and events to be more than \$1 million annually. During the past five years, the Garden Theatre has been active in Central Florida, enriching and entertaining the community through creative experiences while encouraging economic growth and providing nostalgic charm.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Garden Theatre as an outstanding local business, and I wish them many more successful years of providing quality performing arts to the Central Florida community.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS A. RIDER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas A. Rider for his continued dedication to the agricultural industries of Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley. Tom is a thoughtful, soft-spoken, intelligent leader and his contributions have translated to increased viability of these crucial industries throughout the Central Coast. It is with great honor that I recognize Mr. Thomas A. Rider as the 2013 Al Smith Friend of Agriculture award winner.

Tom is part of the fifth generation of his family in the Pajaro Valley. He graduated from Watsonville High School in 1966 and went on in 1971 to obtain his degree from Oregon State University.

In the early to mid 1980s, Tom helped this family's business, H.A. Rider & Sons Bottles, make the successful transition from producing apple juice and cider to being a co-packer of flavored waters, brewed teas, energy drinks, and lemonades.

Tom has served on the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Legislative Committee, in addition to chairing the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency.

Later in his career, Tom served as the 4th Supervisorial District Representative for the Genetic Engineering Subcommittee for Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency, HAS. Additionally, Tom represented the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau on the Transportation Funding Task Force, which is comprised of over 90 members representing business, neighborhood, environmental, health, and community-based organizations. Tom has also been a champion of the Basin Management Plan Committee for the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, PVWMA.

Committed to improving the agricultural industry, Tom is currently a board member for the Central Coast Agricultural Task Force, CCATF and a member of the Legislative Committee for the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that agricultural industries of Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley will continue to thrive with Tom's devotion.